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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/577,329	05/24/2000	Walter Wesley Howe	99-009CIP	9634

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VERIZON CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP INC.
C/O CHRISTIAN R. ANDERSEN
600 HIDDEN RIDGE DRIVE
MAILCODE HQEO3H14
IRVING, TX 75038

EXAMINER

GANTT, ALAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2684

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DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/577,329

Applicant(s)

HOWE, WALTER WESLEY

Examiner

Alan T. Gantt

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12 and 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 11, 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4 and 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang, in view of Koster.

Regarding claim 1, Chang et al. discloses a method and apparatus for supporting non-geographic telephone numbers (NPGN) that includes a translation server (TS) containing a non-geographic to HLR mapping table. Thus, Chang includes a method of establishing a call to a wireless directory number (DN) associated with a wireless mobile station, said wireless DN being one of a non-geographic DN and a non-dialable DN. Chang meets the following limitations:

identifying a signaling node associated with said local access DN; (col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 15)

obtaining, from a database residing at a home location register, said wireless DN associated with said local access DN; (col. 7, lines 3-15)

utilizing said wireless DN to determine a route that includes said originating switching node and a visited switching node serving said wireless DN; (col. 7, lines 3-15)

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Chang is concerned with connecting to the signaling network and is silent regarding establishing a connection to the mobile station via a determined network as well as being silent on local access directory number.

Koster discloses a method and system for routing calls to a wireless services platform that uses local number portability searches. Thus, Koster handles local access directory number (col. 2, lines 51-60). Koster meets the following limitations

Receiving a local access DN at an originating switching node; (col. 2, lines 51-60)

Establishing a connection to said wireless mobile station via said determined route
(col. 5, line 53 to col. 6, line 6)

Chang and Koster are combinable because they share a common endeavor, namely telecommunication systems that involve telephone number portability. At the time of the applicant's invention it would have been obvious to modify Chang to include means to handle local access numbers tied to non-geographic numbers as done by Koster so that Chang can handle s all aspects of the call processing process.

Regarding claim 2, Koster meets the following limitation: A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said local access DN is a geographic DN maintained at said originating switching node.(col. 3, lines 1-10true when originating switch is the home MSC)

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Regarding claim 3, Chang meets the following limitation: A method as claimed in claim 2 further comprising associating said geographic DN with said wireless DN in said database residing at said home location register prior to said receiving operation. (col. 4, lines 9-22)

Regarding claim 5, Koster meets the following limitation: A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said originating switching node includes an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN)-capable Service Switching Point (SSP) and the signaling node comprises an AIN-capable Service Control Point (SCP). (col. 3, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 6, Koster meets the following limitation: A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said identifying operation comprises invoking a trigger at said originating switching node indexed as a function of said local access DN. (col. 3, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 7, Chang meets the following limitation: A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

transmitting, in response to said identifying operation, a route request from said originating switching node to said signaling node that includes said local access DN; (col. 7, lines 3-15) and

sending a location request to said home location register that includes said local access DN. (col. 3, lines 11-15)

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Regarding claim 8, Chang meets the following limitation: a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said obtaining operation comprises:

receiving, at said home location register, a location request
from said signaling node that includes said local access DN; (col. 3, lines 11-15) and
accessing said database to obtain said wireless DN associated
with said local access DN. (col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 15)

Regarding claim 9, Chang meets the following limitation: a method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising sending, in response to said obtaining operation, a routing request that includes said wireless DN to a -visitor location register with which said wireless mobile station was last registered. (col. 5, line 53 to col. 6, line 6 [last report to HLR])

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-20 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 12, a home location register configured to access a database to obtain the wireless DN to utilize to obtain a TLDN allocated to the mobile station, where the VLR serving the wireless DN is operable to a connection to the mobile station using the TLDN via the route that includes the originating switching node and the visited switching node was neither found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

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Regarding claim 19, the reasoning applied to claim 12 and additionally the use of the second local access DN being maintained at a second originating node were neither found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

Claims 4, 10, and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 4, the use of two local access directory numbers at two different originating switching nodes and making the association of the two numbers with the wireless DN at the home location register was neither, found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

Regarding claim 10, the use of a temporary local directory number associated with the wireless DN obtained from the HLR in response to a routing request and employing the local access number to forward the received TLDN to the originating switching node was neither found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

White et al. discloses a telecommunication system where dialing of a directory number triggers an intelligent network signal directed to the Internet.

Kallioniemi et al. discloses portability of non-geographic telephone numbers of intelligent network services.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be addressed to Alan Gantt at telephone number (703) 305-0077. The examiner can normally be reached between 9:30 AM and 6 PM within the Eastern Time Zone. The group FAX number is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to this application should be directed to the group receptionist at telephone number (703) 305-4700.

Alan T. Gantt
Alan T. Gantt

February 22, 2004

Nick Corsen
Primary Examiner